(c) Detals of the project for which the loan has been taken are as under: —

Project	Amount (in DM Million)
(i) NABARD-VI	30 0
(ii) Financial Structural Adjustment Programme	60.0
(iii) Fertiliser -III	60.0
(iv) Rourkela Steel Plant Modernisation	27.3
(v) NIC-I Expansion	37.7
(vi) SIDBI-II	15.2
TOTAL	230.2

Defrauding of Nationalised Banks

2049. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item reported in Times of India dated the 6th January, 1994 stating that a syndicate of cheats duped several nationalised banks to the tune of more thaan Rs. 5 crores, in what is named in banking circles as 'Babina' case;

(b) whether the banking authorities have since indentified the shortcomings in their operational procedure resulting in such frauds; and

(c) what preventive steps Government propose to initiate to curb such frauds in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has intimated that State Bank of India and Central Bank of India have reported that in some of their Branches, frauds, involving a total amount of Rs. 131.99 lakhs had been perpetrated wherein the modus operandi is the same. No other nationalised bank has reported this type of fraud to RBI so far.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In order to avoid recurrence of such frauds the banks have issued instructions to their branches to strictly follow the prescribed procedures in regard to opening, conduct and operation of newly opened accounts and ensure obtention of photographs of deposiors at the time of opening of new accounts as per RBI instructions. The branches have also been advised to strictly observe cautionary instructions in regard to verification of signatures on payment advices before acting on them.

Action against Auditor's firm for non-detection of irregularities by foreign banks

2050. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item reported in Economic Times of 15th February, 1994 that disciplinary process has been initiated against the firms of auditors involved in the irregularities committed by a number of foreign banks on ready forward deals with non-bank clients in non-SLR securities;

(b) if so, the names of such auditor's firms which failed to detect the difference in the year-end verification of